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# LENINGRAD GUARDS WILL BE REPLACED

## Administration Says Measure Is a Security Precaution

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*Special to The New York Times*

WASHINGTON, April 10 — The entire detachment of six Marine guards stationed at the United States Consulate in Leningrad will be replaced in May as a security precaution, the Reagan Administration said today.

On Tuesday, the Marine Corps arrested a former guard, Sgt. John J. Weirick, on the suspicion that he spied for the Soviet Union while he was stationed in Leningrad in 1981 and 1982. The arrest raised fears that the security of the consulate, like that of the embassy in Moscow, had been compromised by Soviet intelligence agencies with the cooperation of Marine guards.

Meanwhile, Government officials said one of the marines implicated in breaches of security rules in Moscow had been moved from a previous assignment at another embassy because he had beaten a local woman.

All 28 guards at the embassy in Moscow are to be replaced as soon as visas are issued to their replacements. The Pentagon said that there was no evidence that the men being recalled from Leningrad and Moscow were implicated in the series of security breaches at the diplomatic missions, but that bringing them back to the United States would aid investigators.

Staff Sgt. Robert S. Stufflebeam, a Marine guard who was charged this week with improper contacts with Soviet women while stationed at the Moscow embassy, was removed from his post in Harare, Zimbabwe, in 1984 because he had beaten a woman he knew there, according to officials familiar with the situation.

After leaving Zimbabwe, Sergeant Stufflebeam was moved to a post in Somalia, where he remained nine months, his records show, and in 1985 he was assigned to the guard detachment in Moscow, where he became the deputy commander.

In Moscow, according to charges filed this week against Sergeant Stufflebeam, he repeatedly met with Soviet women and afterward failed to report the contacts.

Sergeant Stufflebeam is not suspected of espionage, but two marines who reported to him in Moscow have been arrested and charged with helping Soviet intelligence agents enter the embassy.

Sergeant Stufflebeam's military attorney turned down requests to discuss his behavior in Zimbabwe. The sergeant is awaiting court-martial proceedings at Quantico, Va.

Government officials who were familiar with the episode at the time of the reported assault said Sergeant Stufflebeam had become involved with a local woman in Zimbabwe and had physically abused her.

Rules governing the Marine guards prohibit social contact with local citizens in certain countries, mainly Soviet bloc nations. It was not forbidden for Sergeant Stufflebeam to have a Zimbabwean girlfriend. The woman in the case did not press charges.